

a first additional-information extraction step of extracting the first additional information added to the first information signal;

a⁴ a second additional-information extraction step of extracting the second additional information added to the second information signal; and

a controlling step of controlling a copyright protection operation on at least one of the first information signal and the second information signal based on the first additional information and the second additional information extracted in said first additional-information extraction step and said second additional-information extraction step, respectively.

REMARKS

Claims 1-45 remain in the application with claims 1-16, 18-32, 34-42, and 44 having been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicant is a citizen and resident of Japan and this application originated there.

Accordingly, the amendments made to the specification are provided to place the application in idiomatic English, and the claims are amended to place them in better condition for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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[illegible]